

Draft Meeting Notes
LCR MSCP Steering Committee October 24, 2007

Attending

George Caan	Monica Swartz	Michael Clinton
Laura Vecerina	Jerry Zimmerman	Tom Burke
Lesley Fitzpatrick	Chris Harris	Lorri Gray
Bill Werner	Joe Vanderhorst	John Swett
David Weedman	Sara Price	Terry Murphy
Dana Medlock	Holly Cheong	Jon Sjoberg
Chuck Cullom	Jack Stonehocker	Phil Lehr
Wade Noble	Fred Worthley	Kerry Christensen
Charles Paradzick	Linda Carbone	Bill Lamb
Chris Hayes	Jed Blake	Anthony Miller
Cahn Nguyen	Judi Nielsen	Jim Bahde
Tim Wade	Kevin Grove	
David Brownlee	Ken Ferjancie	

Attending Via Conference Call

Troy Smith
Maureen George
Eileen Wynkoop
Ed Smith
Dee Bradshaw

1. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Introductions

The meeting convened at 10:00 a.m. by Chairperson George Caan.

Review of Agenda

The agenda was reviewed and approved.

Public Comments

No public comments were offered.

Approve June 27, 1007 Meeting Notes

The June 27, 2007 Meeting Notes were approved with minor amendments to be made (Moved by Bill Werner, seconded by Chuck Cullum, and adopted by consensus).

George Caan announced two people were leaving the Steering Committee. Phil Lehr was retiring from the Colorado River Commission, and Lorri Gray was selected as the Regional Director of the Lower Colorado Region of the Bureau of Reclamation. Plaques were presented to Phil and Lorri.

2. WORKPLAN AND BUDGET

John Swett, Acting LCR MSCP Program Manager, stated the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service sent a letter saying the FY2008 Work Plan and Budget and FY2006 Accomplishment Report was consistent with the Section 10 Permit and Biological Opinion. The California Department of Fish and Game also sent a letter saying that the report was consistent with the CESA Permit. All first-quarter payments have been received on time. Letters documenting funds in the Habitat Maintenance Account have been received from California and Nevada. Arizona's is in transit.

Laura Vecerina reviewed the process for obtaining In-Kind Credit for Goods and Services as outlined in PDD 08-001. Phil Lehr stated that PDD 08-001 was the result of the In-Kind Credit Work Group meeting held in September and a conference call in October.

Wade Nobel stated he met with Bill Plummer, and they are requesting a couple of inserts into the document for clarification purposes. There was discussion among the committee members resulting in a motion to approve the PDD 08-001 with minor changes made (Moved by Bill Werner, seconded by Chuck Cullum, and adopted by consensus).

3. PROJECT UPDATES

Terry Murphy gave a PowerPoint presentation on four LCR MSCP projects

Imperial Ponds Conservation Area: The construction of all six ponds has been completed. The project will provide 80 acres of isolated backwater habitat for razorback sucker and bonytail chub. Future years will see the construction of 12 acres of marsh and 34 acres of cottonwood-willow habitat. Terry provided information on the total project cost and the per-unit cost for the construction. A dedication ceremony, scheduled for November 5th, is being planning and sponsored by CAWCD, the LCR MSCP, and Imperial Wildlife Refuge.

Cibola National Wildlife Refuge Land Use Agreement: Terry stated that they have been working on a Land Use Agreement for the Cibola NWR Unit #1 with the Fish and Wildlife Service. This project will bring 900 acres into the program for future riparian habitat development.

Cibola Valley Conservation Area Land and Water Agreements: Terry indicated that the Mohave Repurchase Options for Cibola Land and Water have been exercised and the agreements completed. These agreements secured over 1,300 acres of land and 1,300 AF/Y of water for the program. Working through these agreements involved a significant effort by Mohave County Water Authority and Arizona Game and Fish Department.

Big Bend Conservation Area: Terry provided a briefing paper to the Steering Committee on the Big Bend Conservation area. He indicated that Reclamation, SNWA, NDOW, and Big Bend State Park had entered into a MOA to explore use of the property for MSCP purposes. He indicated that protection of an existing backwater could provide 15 acres of Flannemouth Sucker habitat for the program. A site visit for the Steering Committee has been scheduled for February 2008.

4. PROCESS UPDATES

Terry Murphy provided an update on the Draft Site Selection Report. He indicated that a work group meeting to review results from Step 2 of the Backwater Site Selection was scheduled for February 2008. He anticipated issuing an RFP for Riparian Sites in Spring.

John Swett presented Resolution 08-001 to the Steering Committee recommending the Science Strategy be finalized with no changes. The Science Strategy had been left in draft form for one year.

A discussion took place regarding the wording of the resolution. It was agreed to acknowledge that the Final Science Strategy may be reviewed and updated as needed. There was a motion to approve with minor changes (Moved by Lesley Fitzpatrick, seconded by Jon Sjoberg, and adopted by consensus).

5. GENERAL INFORMATION

Tom Burke gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Status of quagga mussels.

6. STEERING COMMITTEE SCHEDULE

George Caan reviewed the Steering committee calendar for the upcoming year. Laura Vecerina will post the schedule on line.

7. SUMMARY AND ACTION ITEMS

George Caan summarized the meeting and asked for any comments. There were no comments.

8. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.